

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF ARKANSAS
300 WEST 2ND STREET
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3777
(501) 918-5500
FAX (501) 918-5520
www.arb.uscourts.gov

DIVISIONAL OFFICE:
Federal Bldg., Room 316
35 E. Mountain St.
Fayetteville, AR 72702-3097
(479) 582-9800
FAX (479) 582-9825

Jean Rolfs
Clerk of Court

Eastern District Bar Advisory Committee Minutes March 23, 2005

In attendance: Jean Rolfs, Karen Waldroff, Charles Tucker, Jo-Ann Goldman, Charlie Coleman, Joe Kolb, and John Phillips. Linda Green, Warren Dupwe, Ralph Waddell, Eddie Schieffler and Rosalind Mouser were unable to attend.

1. Chuck Tucker discussed Batch Trustee Assignments:

In ECF Version 2.4, a new "batch" feature to the Judge/Trustee Assignment program was released. This new feature was designed to assign all cases filed in one day by one attorney to one trustee. To take advantage of this new feature, the attorney needs to enter all his/her cases on the same day without selecting the Judge/Trustee Assignment button in between cases. After all cases have been entered, the attorney should then select the Judge/Trustee Assignment button. The auto assignment program will then batch all cases to one trustee. Please note that there is a 10-case batch limit currently in place.

2. Charlie Coleman encouraged all to attend the Pulaski County Bar Association Bankruptcy Conference on May 13 at the UALR Bowen School of Law.

3. Bankruptcy Reform Legislation: Jean Rolfs let the committee know that information would be posted on the court's website as it is made available from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

4. Karen Waldroff provided an update regarding the E-Government Act of 2002 (effective April 16, 2005). She reported that all required changes are made in ECF. In ECF version 3.0, attorneys will have ability to do text searches on written opinions.

5. Karen Waldroff reported that search capability has been added to the court's website. The Bankruptcy Court website (www.arb.uscourts.gov) now features an ISYS search engine in order to better serve our users. This new capability will allow users to conduct detailed searches of the documents (both html and PDF) currently stored on our website. By entering a keyword in the search box and clicking the "Search" button, users are instantly shown a selection of relevant documents. This new feature will expand a user's ability to find relevant documents easily. The court also added a feature which allows users to search specific areas of our website, such as General Orders, Judges' Opinions, and Local Rules.

6. Joe Kolb requested that information regarding priority claims be available on all three Chapter 13 Trustees' websites.

7. Joe Kolb brought up delinquency calculations. Jo-Ann Goldman said the information on

the website was inaccurate, so she removed it from the website. Jo-Ann Goldman said the arrearage calculations on the website are correct. Jo-Ann Goldman said the new Chapter 13 Trustees' software will be improved and do a better job of calculating delinquencies and abatements and arrearages.

8. Jo-Ann Goldman asked for Chapter 13 Trustee internet access (to their websites) while in the courtrooms. This request was granted for Little Rock and Fayetteville, and the request was passed on to the District Clerks for divisional courtrooms.
9. Karen Waldroff stated that ECF Version 3.0 will allow for batch filing of proofs of claim.
10. John Phillips expressed his concern about a flood of filings before the new legislation goes into effect and asked Chuck Tucker about not overbooking First Meetings. Chuck Tucker said he would remind the trustees about this issue.
11. John Phillips requested that the Chapter 13 Trustees look into the problem of debtors understanding they owe the plan base, but then actually owing more. Jo-Ann Goldman suggested that the Chapter 13 trustees put on their website that Plan Base is NOT payout. Jo-Ann Goldman also suggested the Chapter 13 trustees add a field that ~~tells~~ displays payoffs.
12. Joe Kolb asked if attorneys are automatically added to a case if they file a pleading.

Answer: No. When a pleading is filed, a screen will pop up and ask whom the attorney is representing. Once the party being represented is picked, that party is added to the case (if it wasn't already), and then the attorney is presented with a prompt asking if they want to associate themselves with the new party. The attorney needs to answer "yes." If the attorney does not associate themselves with the new party, the attorney is not added to the case.